MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know whether, apart from the confidential nature of the report, before these reports are acted upon, the officer against whom the report is made is given an opportunity to defend himself?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): That is generally the case.

Report against Textile Expert.

70. **MR. A. J. JOHN** (*Vaikam*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Director of Industries has made any report to the Government against the Textile Expert?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer given to Interpellation No. 69 by Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai.

Boring Machine.

71. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to furnish the following information:

(*a*) when the boring machine was acquired and the reasons for its purchase;

(*b*) how many boring operations have been conducted since, at what places and for what purpose;

(*c*) whether the Director of Industries at any time wrote to the Government that economic minerals are not found in South Travancore and, if so, his reasons for getting up this machine in South Travancore; and

(*d*) whether the Director still holds that such minerals are not to be found in South Travancore?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The boring machine was purchased in October 1924 for prospecting for minerals and water.

(*b*) Boring operations were conducted by the Department of Industries for (1) prospecting for pyrrhotite at Mangamalai, (2) prospecting for water at the Government Fruit Farm at Mahadanapuram, (3) investigating Quilon Limestone at Paravoor and Nedungolam.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) In view of answer to part (*c*) this question does not arise.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): With reference to part (*b*) may I know whether any of these operations were found successful?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): These were only experiments to find out whether

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): May I know from what data they proceed with the boring machines to perform operations?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): That is to find out whether water and mineral can be found at a certain depth.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Without investigating anything?

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